

Message Text

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ACTION IO-13

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 ARA-06 EA-07 EUR-12 NEA-10 ISO-00

IOE-00 EB-08 AID-05 L-03 COME-00 LAB-04 TRSE-00

STR-04 SIL-01 NSC-05 SS-15 SP-02 OIC-02 XMB-02

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FM AMEMBASSY VIENNA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 1466

INFO USMISSION USUN NEW YORK IMMEDIATE

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EO 11652: NA

TAGS: OCON, UN, UNIDO

SUBJECT: US POSITION ON RESUMPTION OF NEGOTIATIONS FOR
CONSTITUTION FOR UNIDO AS SPECIALIZED AGENCY

REF: (A) STATE 71611 (B) VIENNA 2796

SUMMARY:

MISSION REQUESTS URGENT INSTRUCTIONS ON ATTITUDE IT
SHOULD TAKE TOWARD PLAN GAINING ACCEPTANCE AMONG
VIENNA UNIDO MISSIONS FOR RESUMPTION OF NEGOTIATIONS
ON UNIDO CONSTITUTION IN CONTEXT OF CONFERENCE OF
PLENIPOTENTIARIES. END SUMMARY.

1. SINCE UNSUCCESSFUL CONCLUSION OF 5TH SESSION OF
INTERGOVERNMENTAL COMMITTEE ON CONSTITUTION FOR UNIDO
(IGC) "CORRIDOR TALK" AMONG VIENNA MISSIONS HAS
FOCUSSED ON POSSIBLE NEXT STEPS TOWARD RESUMPTION OF
NEGOTIATIONS. CONSENSUS AMONG GROUP B (WESTERN GROUP)
APPEARS TO BE FORMING IN SUPPORT OF IDEA THAT SYG WALKHEIM

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SHOULD BE INDUCED TO CONVENE A THREE-WEEK NEGOTIATING
SESSION IN NEW YORK, BEGINNING END AUGUST, TO BE
DESCRIBED AS PART ONE OF A PLENIPOTENTIARY CONFERENCE,
FOLLOWED AFTER A BREAK OF THREE WEEKS OR SO, BY A
SHORT RESUMED SESSION AT MINISTERIAL LEVEL FOR SIGNING
OF A PRESUMABLY ACCEPTABLE TEXT.

2. AMONG GROUP B, ONLY US (AND POSSIBLY FRG) HAVE, TO OUR KNOWLEDGE, EXPRESSED RESERVATIONS ABOUT THIS APPROACH, ON GROUNDS THAT WE NOT PREPARED TO HAVE A CONSTITUTIONAL TEXT WITH SUCH EXTENSIVE AREAS OF DIS-AGREEMENT STILL OUTSTANDING SUBMITTED TO THE HIGH POLITICAL PLANE OF A PLENIPOTENTIARY GATHERING. THERE IS SOME EVIDENCE, MOREOVER, THAT INFLUENTIAL G-77 MISSIONS IN VIENNA WOULD SUPPORT A PROCEDURE FOR RESUMPTION OF NEGOTIATIONS AS OUTLINED ABOVE. GROUP D HAS STATED THAT IT CAN BE "FLEXIBLE" WITH RESPECT TO SUCH PROCEDURE.

3. A NUMBER OF GROUP B MISSIONS THAT HAVE SHARED TO SOME DEGREE THE US AVERSION TOWARD CONVENING A PLENIPOTENTIARY MEETING UNDER EXISTING CIRCUMSTANCES APPEAR TO BE CONVNCED THAT THERE ARE OVERRIDING CONCERNS WHICH POINT TOWARD ACCEPTING THE GROUP B CONSENSUS: NAMELY, AN UNWILLINGNESS TO SEE THE FRUITS OF 12 WEEKS OF HARD NEGOTIATION--WHICH LOOKED LIKE RESULTING IN AN ARRANGEMENT OF SIGNIFICANT ADVANTAGE TO MAJOR CONTRIBUTORS--FALL BY THE WAYSIDE; AND THE RELATED POSSIBILITY THAT THE G-77, IN THE ABSENCE OF A STRONG PROBABILITY OF RESUMED NEGOTIATIONS AT AN EARLY STAGE, MIGHT WELL DECIDE TO ABANDON FURTHER EFFORT AT THIS TIME, AND RESORT TO GENERAL ASSEMBLY ACTION TO MODIFY THE EXISTING UNIDO STATUTE (G.A. RES 2152/XXI) IN WAYS UNPALATABLE TO OUR INTERESTS. WE SHARE THESE CONCERNS, AND FORESEE THE ADDITIONAL DANGER THAT, SHOULD THE MISSION FORCEFULLY PROSECUTE WHAT IT UNDERSTANDS TO LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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BY THE US POSITION OF RESISTING A RESUMPTION OF NEGOTIATIONS UNDER ANY "PLENIPOTENTIARY" RUBRIC, THE US WILL LIKELY BE REGARDED AS HAVING BLOCKED A POSSIBLE RESOLUTION OF THE CONSTITUTIONAL ISSUE WITHIN THE NEAR FUTURE, A DANGER THAT USDEL TO IGC HAS SUCCESSFULLY AVOIDED UP TO NOW.

4. GROUP B IS SCHEDULED MEET MORNING THURSDAY, APRIL 21. ALTHOUGH QUESTION OF RESUMPTION OF CONSTITUTIONAL NEGOTIATIONS NOT ON AGENDA, INFORMAL DISCUSSIONS HAVE GONE FORWARD TO POINT WHERE IT WILL NOT BE POSSIBLE AVOID OPEN CONSIDERATION OF THIS QUESTION DURING MEETING. IN LIGHT OF CONSIDERATIONS EXPRESSED ABOVE, MISSION REQUESTS INSTRUCTIONS FROM DEPT. BY IMMEDIATE CABLE AS TO WHAT ATTITUDE IT SHOULD TAKE TO PLAN OUTLINED PARA 1. STIBRAVY

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